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East Timor Diplomatic & Intelligence Digest

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Comissão Directiva da FRETILIN*Comando das FALINTIL*Resistência Nacional Estudanti de Timor Leste*RENETIL

PRESS RELEASE

Friday 5th march, 1993

Xanana Gusmão Show Trial- Witness Final Cry for Freedom?

At the continuing show trial of Xanana Gusmão in Dili, East Timor, ABC radio reported that last night a witness for the Indonesian military suddenly stood up and shouted Pro- East Timor slogans.

He was removed from the court and after it re-convened an hour later, an Army doctor said the brave witness, Mr Saturnino da Costa Belo was not fit to continue.

Attached is a Tapol Press release which CNRM fully endorses.

1. We demand to know what happened to Mr Belo during that hour to make him unable to continue. What kind of torture was inflicted on him?

2. We call on all international human rights bodies and governments to urgently make intense representations to the Indonesian government and express concern for the welfare of Mr Belo.

3. Indonesia's appalling and increasingly well known record of torture and massive human rights violations in East Timor indicates that the Xanana Gusmão show trail will continue to be a total Farce until all witnesses are in the care of the International Red Cross and are free to leave to a 3rd country

4. We call on Australia to offer help and sanctuary to all witnesses. ENDS

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